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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 832
By Person

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Jesse Longoria upon his graduation from Evangelical Christian School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those exemplary young people who have distinguished themselves as gifted scholars and upstanding citizens at an early age; and

WHEREAS, Jesse Longoria of Germantown is one such fine young man who is graduating from Evangelical Christian School this year with an exemplary 4.3 Grade Point Average; and

WHEREAS, a fixture on the Principal's List throughout his high school career, Jesse has attended the Tennessee Governor's School and has also been nominated for the Wendy's High School Heisman Award; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable young man won the coveted Gold Medal for the National Latin Exam in 2000 and 2001 and attained a perfect score on this difficult exam in 2001; and

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WHEREAS, a United States All-American Scholar, Jesse has been honored with the United States National Leadership Award and has served as an Alternate to the Hugh O' Brian National Youth Leadership Conference; and

WHEREAS, highly respected as a leader and role model among his peers, Mr. Longoria has served with acumen and integrity as his class's Student Council Representative for four years and is presently serving as Student Council President during his Senior year; and

WHEREAS, he has also served with distinction as his class's Representative to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes for three years and is presently serving as FCA Membership Chairman during his Senior Year; and

WHEREAS, Jesse has been an active and valuable member of several scholarship and public service organizations during his tenure at Evangelical Christian School, including the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Young Life, the Latin Club, the Beta Club, and the Key Club, which he has served as Fundraising Committee Chairman; and

WHEREAS, possessing an unquenchable thirst for knowledge, Jesse has completed five of the seven Advanced Placement courses offered at Evangelical Christian School, including European History, United States History, Calculus, Biology, and English; and

WHEREAS, this gifted scholar was a finalist for the Bartlett/Cordova Rotary Club's 2002 Scholar/Athlete Service Award and was accepted to the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine in 2001; and

WHEREAS, a young man of many and various talents, Mr. Longoria was named Most Outstanding Student in Orientation to Theater for 1999-2000 and has been featured in *Who's Who Among American High School Students* for four consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, formerly a talented reporter and cartoonist for his school's newspaper, Jesse took Third Place honors in Artwork in the 1999 Tennessee High School Press Association Contest; and

WHEREAS, as a valuable member of the staff, he was instrumental in Evangelical Christian School's newspaper placing First in ACSI Southeast Regional Competition in 1999 and 2000 and being named "All-Tennessee" by the Tennessee High School Press Association for three consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his many academic accomplishments, Jesse Longoria is a multi-talented and dedicated athlete; he is a three-year letterman in Varsity Football and Varsity Track, specializing in the Decathlon, and has also participated in Junior Varsity Basketball; and

WHEREAS, Jesse's sterling play at Tight End and Defensive End and his inspiring leadership were instrumental in the Evangelical Christian School Football team capturing three consecutive State Championships in 1999, 2000, and 2001; and

WHEREAS, Jesse placed fifth in the State High Jump in 2000 and improved to capture fourth place in the same event in 2001; he was named "Best of Preps" (All-Metro Memphis) in Track for three consecutive seasons, an honor most befitting this uncommonly gifted athlete and competitor; and

WHEREAS, a young man who understands that citizenship entails many responsibilities, as well as privileges, Jesse has generously donated his time, energy, and talents to several civic and charitable organizations, including meritorious service with the Special Olympics Bowling Program and as a Program Leader with F.R.O.G., an elementary-school-age children's enrichment program; and

WHEREAS, following in the most cherished traditions of the Volunteer State, Mr. Longoria has raised funds for St. Jude Children's Hospital and for Special Olympics through the Polar Bear Plunge; he also tutors elementary school students in Math; and

WHEREAS, Jesse Longoria earned his place among the world's best students when he was accepted to Duke University; he will enter Duke's Pratt School of Engineering this fall and pursue a degree in Bio-Medical Engineering; and

WHEREAS, Jesse's family is quite understandably proud of this exceptional young man and his impressive accomplishments across several disciplines; and

WHEREAS, he is the son of proud parents, Ritchie and Kathleen Longoria, and the brother of Ritchie, III and Katie; and

WHEREAS, Jesse is also the grandson of our most valued colleague, Senator Curtis Person, Jr. and Geraldean Smith Person; and

WHEREAS, our young people face many obstacles and challenges today, yet we can proudly state, without equivocation, that Jesse Longoria exemplifies all that is good, moral, and virtuous in our society; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Jesse Longoria on his upcoming graduation from Evangelical Christian School, and salute his remarkable success in the realms of academics, athletics, and public service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we commend Mr. Longoria upon the fine example he has set for his peers and wish him all the best in what we are confident will be a bright future at Duke University.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.